

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A content receiver is compatible with a plurality of rights management and protection methods (RMP) devised for each content distribution system. Only the format which specifies the specification of the RMP formed of information such as content billing, security, and copyright protection, is standardized. Each content provider inputs encrypted content and rights processing information to content in a form conforming to the standardized specification. For content users, by merely being provided with functions corresponding to each RMP method in advance, even if the content is based on any RMP method, the content can be decrypted and used in the same content receiver.

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